(b) Soft wood (Match wood).—

1961—62	..	2,444 Acres.
1962—63	...	2,585 Acres.
1963—64	..	2,728 Acres.
Total		7,757 Acres.

(iv) The cultivation of medicinal herbs is undertaken by Forest Department on experimental basis and not on a commercial scale.

(*b*) On an area of 530 acres.

(*c*) No.

Maintaining of special Vans for transportation of Fish, Fruits, etc., for Marketing purposes.

Q.—30. Sri C. R. RANGE GOWDA (Magadi).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether they maintain special vans to transport fish, fruits, vegetables and eggs from place to place for the purpose of marketing;

(*b*) if so, what is the amount spent annually for that purpose ?

A.—Sri B. RACHAIAH (Minister for Forests and Fisheries).—

(*a*) (i) Fish : Yes.

(ii) Fruits and vegetables : No.

(iii) Eggs : Van is maintained by the Animal Husbandry Department not only to bring eggs but also chicks, culled birds, poultry and poultry requirements, etc.

(*b*) (i) Fisheries Department : Rs. 31,045 (Average).

(ii) Animal Husbandry Department : The cost for transportation of eggs is roughly fixed at Rs. 5,672.74 based on the number of eggs transported through the van along with the other commodities.

Squads maintained to put down Smuggling of Forest Wealth in the State.

Q.—32. Sri C. R. RANGE GOWDA (Magadi).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) what are the special arrangements made and the squads maintained to put down smuggling of forests wealth in the State;

(SRI C. R. RANGE GOWDA)

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the number of watchers and guards in the Forest Department have been reduced in recent years and if so, what is the reasons for the same;

(*c*) what is the total strength of forest guards and watchers during the year 1952-53, 1957-58 and 1962-63 in the State ?

A.—**SRI B. RACHAIAH** (Minister for Forests and Fisheries).—

(*a*) (i) Establishment of Anti-smuggling Squads, Sandal Smuggling Prevention Units, Mobile Units, etc.

(ii) (a) Sandal Smuggling Prevention Duty Staff, Bellary Circle, Kolar Division.
(b) Anti-smuggling Squad, Bangalore Division.
(c) Mobile Unit, Bellary Circle.
(d) Checking Station, Hiriyur.
(e) Two squads, Dharwar, Sirsi.
(f) Timber Smuggling Prevention Units, Shimoga Circle.
(g) Circle Squad, Mercara.
(h) Two Divisional Squads at Mysore and Kollegal.

(*b*) No. No reduction of watchers has been effected.

(*c*) *Vide* statement below.

STATEMENT

Showing the Number of Forest Guards and Watchers.

Years	Shimoga		Belgaum		Bellary		Coorg	
	Forest Guards	Watchers	Forest Guards	Watchers	Forest Guards	Watchers	Forest Guards	Watchers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1952-53	452	—	693	—	509	144	333	139
1957-58	460	—	744	—	497	238	409	218
1962-63	479	—	963	—	540	347	495	249